



**ST. PATRICK'S DINNER:** Join the American Legion from 1 to 6 p.m. **MARCH 16** for a family-friendly St. Patrick's dinner featuring hearty portions of corned beef, cabbage, buttery red potatoes, glazed carrots, bread, coffee, pop and water. \$11 includes free drink. Kids under 5 eat free. **INFO:** (219) 972-3948.

# GAZEBOEXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • MARCH 2019



## RESTAURANT REVIVAL

Highland's reputation as a spot to tap into fantastic food — is growing.

After outgrowing its Griffith location, Rigo Gutierrez moved his wildly popular Asada Grill & Cantina to the former Zuni's on 45th — and never looked back.

He's not alone.

Tinker's Attic Owners Lisabeth and Susan Crouch took the plunge, opening Hasta La Vista Eatery in downtown Highland late last year.

Redevelopment Commission President Bernie Zemen sees a trend emerging with a new steak and sushi restaurant coming to downtown and Korean BBQ on Indianapolis Boulevard.

"Highland has restaurants that serve up almost anything you can imagine - great food at reasonable prices," he said. "I can't remember when we've had this many one-of-a-kind eateries finding a place here all at the same time."



When Asada Grill and Cantina opened in Highland, the restaurant went from seating 90 diners to 300 — overnight. Named by Yelp as one of the 50 best spots in Indiana, Rigo Gutierrez continues to serve up his famed carne asada and tacos to longtime patrons as well as new fans. "Despite crazy weather, our business is even better than we expected."

2907 W. 45TH AVENUE, HIGHLAND  
(219) 934-0400



Diners at Hasta La Vista Eatery get the benefit of Manager Susan Crouch's whims and wishes in her sparkling new kitchen. A hearty sauced spaghetti one night will be replaced by meatloaf and mashed potatoes the next. "We do small batches and start everything from scratch. We don't even use a pre-made base for our soups. It's all fresh all the time."

2513 HIGHWAY AVE, HIGHLAND  
(219) 301-509

## LINCOLN CENTER MEMBERSHIPS, REC PROGRAMS, RENTALS ON RISE

It was a blockbuster year for Lincoln Community Center with rentals, fitness memberships and classes showing year-over-year increases providing a healthy boost in the center's bottom line.

Council President Steve Wagner said people choose Lincoln Center because of what it offers — top-of-the-line fitness coupled with a personal touch.

"Residents tell me they choose Lincoln Community Center because it is a comfortable place where they have productive interactions with staff and meet up with friends and neighbors," he said.

Recreation Director Dave Byers agreed.

"Some of 2018's success can certainly be attributed to our dedicated rec staff who are constantly looking at ways to improve things and challenge the status quo," Byers said. "Many of our instructors have strong followings and because of that, I believe that word of mouth is our biggest marketing channel."

### BY THE NUMBERS ...

Interest continues to grow in Lincoln Center recreation programs, rentals and fitness memberships. Here's a look at the numbers:

Volleyball	up 43%
Youth Dance Classes	up 51%
Summer Camp	up 11%
Adult Special Interest Classes	up 54%
Lincoln Center rentals	up 22%
Fitness Memberships	up 11%

Source: Highland Parks & Recreation

## WHEN CALLING POLICE ...

**CALL 911** for all emergencies and crimes in progress.

**CALL (219) 660-0000** for all non-emergency situations requiring an officer response at your location.

**CALL (219) 838-3184** to inquire about accident reports or citations, report a violation or missing/lost dog, etc. Visit [highlandpolice.com](http://highlandpolice.com) to download a complete list.

## CRIME WATCH MEETING

Join us for an evening with Sheriff Oscar Martinez as we learn about recent crime trends throughout our community and Lake County.

**WHEN:** 6:30 p.m. **MARCH 13**

**WHERE:** HPD Community Room

**INFO:** Please call Sgt. Shawn Anderson at (219) 838-3184 or email [sanderson@highland.in.gov](mailto:sanderson@highland.in.gov).



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## NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

Send your suggestions to:  
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Receiving the award on behalf of their late father were four of Doherty's children. Pictured from left: NIRPC Executive Director Ty Warner, NIRPC Chairman Geof Benson, Phil Doherty, Pete Doherty, Beth Doherty, Paul Doherty, Former NIRPC Executive Director John Swanson and Highland Clerk-Treasurer Michael Griffin.

## FORMER CLERK-TREASURER POSTHUMOUSLY RECOGNIZED FOR HIS SERVICE, COMMITMENT

The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission posthumously awarded the Norman Tufford Award to Paul Doherty for his exemplary service and commitment to Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties.

Doherty, who served Highland first as a town councilman and later as its clerk-treasurer, died in 2017 at the age of 94.

"The Town of Highland and NIRPC, as well as the charitable organizations on whose boards he served, benefited greatly from Paul Doherty's leadership, professionalism and willingness to serve," said John Swanson, NIRPC's third executive director who nominated Doherty for the award.

"Paul gave a great deal of his time and efforts to helping the poor and vulnerable in the region through his active involvement in various social service agencies," Swanson said. "His dedication to improving the quality of life in northwest Indiana were truly exemplary."

Highland Clerk-Treasurer Michael Griffin, who served as NIRPC chairman in 2017, worked closely with Doherty.

"As sixth Clerk-Treasurer of Highland, a member of the town board for 12 years, as a member of NIRPC and a past chair, and as a person of faith, Paul Doherty always exhibited committed service to others," Griffin said. "He is ever so deserving of this award." 🌱

## HIGHLAND HUMANELY CARING FOR FERAL CATS

Highland Animal Control, the Police Department and Humane Indiana are partnering to provide the brightest outlook possible for the town's neighborhood of outdoor cats.

Once a feline is humanely trapped, either by a resident or Animal Control, the animal will be evaluated at Humane Indiana in Munster to see if it qualifies for the agency's Community Cat (RTF) Return to Field program.

Captured felines are vaccinated, sterilized and returned to their outdoor homes. The program is an important alternative to shelter intake, where statistics show only 0.03 percent of cats are returned to their owners.

### WANT TO DONATE TO THE CAUSE?

Humane Indiana maintains a donation account for the Highland Police Department's Animal Control. Please make checks payable to Humane Indiana and put Highland Animal Control Fund in the memo line. Donations may be dropped off at Humane Indiana, 421 45th in Munster or the Highland Police Department, 3315 Ridge Road.

The RTF program makes it seven to 10 times more likely that the feline will return to its owner. RTF cats are identified by a tipped ear. Cats that are not eligible for the program will be cared for at Humane Indiana. 🌱



## Community Organization Spotlight

### FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE DONALD R. SHEPPARD LODGE #122

## HIGHLAND FOP PROUD TO HELP COMMUNITY

When Highland's finest aren't patrolling streets and protecting the public good, officers are engaged in giving back to the community through charitable works as members of Highland Fraternal Order of Police Donald R. Sheppard Lodge 122.

FOP President Randy Stewart said the lodge is heartened by business owners and residents who count themselves as long-time associate members, donating to the good works of the FOP.

"We take dozens of Highland children shopping every Christmas and support youth baseball teams, thanks to contributions from those who see the value in what we do," said Stewart, a Highland Police sergeant. "Our local Meijer and Blue Top are major backers of this event and we are grateful."

Stewart said Highland FOP never solicits donations by telephone or try to pressure individuals to donate.

"We want people to give from their heart not because of a sales call," he said. "Every dollar goes to helping others." 🐾



### HOW TO DONATE ...

The Highland Fraternal Order of Police holds several fundraisers throughout the year that benefit the community, including the Cops and Kids shopping event in December.

For an annual donation of \$25 for an individual and \$35 for a family, you can become an associate member of the FOP.

Please make checks payable to Highland FOP Lodge 122 and mail to:

Highland FOP Lodge 122  
PO Box 1743  
Highland, Indiana 46322

**INFO:** Email President Randy Stewart at [rstewart@highland.in.gov](mailto:rstewart@highland.in.gov)



### NEW POLLING PLACES

A decision by Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson to reduce polling places in Lake County means seven fewer locations to vote in Highland. The new polling configuration will begin with the May 7 primary. The Lake County Board of Elections has worked to make the changes as efficient as possible for voters. Here's a look at how Highland's precincts have been combined:

PRECINCT	LOCATION
3, 4	Lincoln Social Center 2450 Lincoln St. <b>PCT 1 now votes in 4</b> <b>PCT 2 now votes in 3</b>
5	Highland Fire Station 2647 45th St,
6, 10	Johnston Elementary 8220 5th St. <b>PCT 7 now votes in 6</b> <b>PCT 17 now votes in 10</b>
8	Highland Presbyterian 8727 Delaware St.
9, 21	Warren Elementary 2901 100th St.
11	Town Hall 3333 Ridge Road
12, 16	Gloria Dei Lutheran 3711 Ridge Road
15	Merkley Elementary 9340 5th Street <b>PCT 22 now votes in 15</b>
19, 23	Southridge Elementary 9221 Johnston St. <b>PCT 13 now votes in 19</b>
20	Meadow Park Garage 9400 Southmoore Ave.
24	Faith Church 8910 Grace St.
25, 26	Immanuel United 2201 Azalea Dr. <b>PCT 18 now votes in 25</b>

**Note:** There is no PCT 14

**INFO:** For more on the latest voter information, please visit the Lake County Board of Elections website at [www.lakecountyin.org](http://www.lakecountyin.org).

## JUNIOR PAINT WORKSHOPS

Trained Instructor Stephanie Spencer will lead youth - ages 7 through 12 - step-by-step as they paint their own 12" x 12" canvas. It's a fun, stress-free class. No experience is required.

**WHEN:** 5-6:30 p.m. Thursdays, **MARCH 21** (Blackhawks) and **APRIL 18** (Dunes).

**WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center

**FEE:** \$15 residents / \$18 nonresidents

**INFO:** highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

## CANVAS PAINT WORKSHOPS

Trained Instructor Stephanie Spencer will show you step-by-step how to paint your own 16" x 20" canvas. It's a fun, stress-free class. No experience is required. Ages 13 and older.

**WHEN:** 6:30-9 p.m. Thursdays, **MARCH 21** (Blackhawks) and **APRIL 18** (Dunes).

**WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center

**FEE:** \$25 residents / \$30 nonresidents

**INFO:** highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

## BABE RUTH REGISTRATION

It's time to register for Highland Babe Ruth. Divisions are open to Lake County residents.

**BABE RUTH:** Ages 13 to 15

**SENIOR BABE RUTH:** Ages 16 to 19

**WHEN:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. **MARCH 24**

**WHERE:** Lincoln Center Room 109

**FEE:** \$200 per player

**INFO:** Please contact Highland Babe Ruth President Lisa Stacy at (219) 381-5331 or email hbrinfo@highlandbaberuth.com.

## ADULT SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL

Registration now for men's and co-rec softball teams. League format will depend on number of teams in division. Top teams receive cash prizes. Rosters are limited to 20 players. Season begins April 15. First games begin at 6:30 p.m., Sunday games at 5:30 p.m.

**TEAM FEE:** \$650 due by **MARCH 31**

**WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center

**INFO:** highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

## SWIM CLUB REGISTRATION

The Highland Hurricanes Swim Club, a competitive swim team for youth ages 5-18 in Highland and surrounding communities, is conducting swim assessments and registration for its 2019 summer season, which begins **APRIL 15**. Birth certificate needed for registration. New members must bring a swimsuit and towel for in-water evaluation.

**WHEN:** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, **APRIL 9** and Thursday, **APRIL 11**

**WHERE:** Highland High Natatorium located at 41st and 5th streets. Enter through door "P," across from the high school softball field.

**FEE:** Varies depending on age and level.

Payment plans are available.

**INFO:** (219) 595-9357 or highlandhurricanes.net

# Got cabin fever?

## JOIN US FOR THIS MONTH'S GARAGE SALES AND CRAFT SHOWS!

### COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE & COMIC BOOK SHOW

Enjoy shopping for comic books, sports cards, autographs and memorabilia in conjunction with the Community Garage Sale, featuring household items, books and so much more!

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **MARCH 16**

**WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center

**INFO:** highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114



### ST. JAMES RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

Hunt for gently used gems and enjoy homemade goodies at the rummage, pierogi and bake sale, hosted by St. James Women's Guild. Clothes are \$7 a bag. Other garage sale items priced as marked. Donations may be dropped off from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. **MARCH 26-27**. No large furniture items, please.

**WHEN:** 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, **MARCH 27**; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, **MARCH 28** and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, **MARCH 29**.

**WHERE:** St. James the Less Church Hall, 9640 Kennedy Avenue.

**INFO:** Please call (219) 924-4220.

### SPRING CRAFT SHOW & VENDOR FAIR

The best in arts and crafts will be showcased at the annual spring show, featuring candles, jewelry, handbags, home décor, wellness products/services, homemade items, gourmet dips and so much more.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, **APRIL 6**

**WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center

**VENDOR FEES:** \$43 for 10' x 10' interior space and \$70 for 23' x 6' wall booth (7% sales tax included). Table, chairs and extension cords are not provided.

**INFO:** highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114